



FISHERIES DEPARTMENT

360/598-3311

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THE SUQUAMISH TRIBE

P.O. Box 498

Suquamish, Washington 98392

April 6, 2011

Renee Nordeen
Ecology and Environment, Inc.
720 Third Ave, ste 1700
Seattle, WA 98104

Subject: Bremerton Gasworks Beach

Dear Ms. Nordeen,

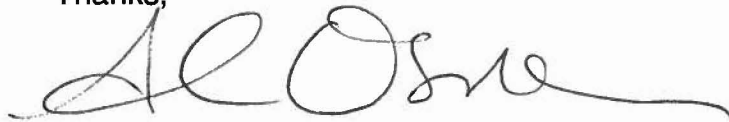
The Zone of Actual Contamination along Port Washington Narrows as depicted in the map (Reference 10) which you provided for review is part of the "Usual and Accustomed Fishing Area" (U & A) of the Suquamish Tribe. The Tribe has a strong pre-historical, historical, and contemporary connection in the Port Washington Narrows/Sinclair Inlet area that is significant and well documented. Ethnographic and archaeological evidence demonstrates that the Suquamish people have lived, gathered food stuffs, ceremonial and spiritual items, and hunted and fished (for human consumption) for thousands of years near and within the Zone of Actual Contamination (personal communication, Dennis Lewarch, 2008). The Tribe seeks protection of all treaty-reserved natural resources through avoidance of impacts to habitat and natural systems. The Tribe has taken a leadership position in efforts to protect, restore, and enhance the marine waters of Kitsap County to ensure protection of the Tribe's treaty and cultural resources. The Zone of Actual Contamination is an area that has high probability for the presence of unrecorded archaeological resources. Human remains have been found in the vicinity. If disturbance of native soil occurs a cultural resource assessment must be completed and ground disturbing activities need to be coordinated with our Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, Dennis Lewarch.

There are currently no Washington Department of Health sampling stations in the Port Washington Narrows, however, the area is classified as prohibited for harvest due to bacterial contamination from City of Bremerton stormwater outfalls and CSO overflows (a problem the city has been working to correct). The Tribe is in the process of getting Dyes Inlet re-certified and has the goal of eventually addressing all areas currently classified as prohibited from harvest. Once re-

certified, the Tribe would resume harvesting in this area; including the Area of Actual Contamination. However, even if the bacterial issues are resolved harvesting would again be prevented since chemical contamination has now been documented.

The Tribe would like the opportunity to review and comment on all project related documents and deliverables. We assume that since this area is within the Suquamish Tribes U&A that cleanup standards will be protective of human health and calculated using the Suquamish Tribal Consumption survey and that any remedies selected will not impact tribal treaty resources or access. The Suquamish Tribe welcomes the opportunity to work cooperatively to develop a plan that satisfies your goals as well as protects Tribal resources. I look forward to providing additional comments as this project progresses. If you have questions regarding the comments above please don't hesitate to call 360-394-8447.

Thanks,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Alison O'Sullivan', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Alison O'Sullivan
Biologist, Suquamish Tribe